

The Secretary of the Senate delivered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, it appears by the memorial of Mrs. Ann E. Smoot, widow of the late Captain Joseph Smoot, of the United States Navy, that the deceased felt himself aggrieved by the action of the government of the United States, under the act entitled, an act to promote the efficiency of the Navy, and that while suffering under what he conceived to be the wrong and injustice done to him, he departed this life in sadness and sorrow, and feeling on her part, that it would not be proper under the circumstances, for her longer to retain the sword which was presented to him by the State of Maryland, for distinguished services and meritorious conduct in the actions of the Hornet ship-of-war with the Peacock and Penguin, in the last war with Great Britain; and has, therefore, returned the same to the State; Therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That we have learned with profound regret, the deep wound which the act of the retiring board made upon the generous and sensitive spirit of Captain Smoot, and that he has departed this life under a sense of great wrong and injustice done him by the country which he so faithfully and honorably served, and that he was not spared by an allwise Providence to receive the reparation, which Congress has subsequently provided to all who felt themselves aggrieved by the act of the board aforesaid.

And be it resolved, That in securing the sword that has thus been returned to the State, we do not consider that it has been sullied or tarnished in the custody of its late possessor, but we reiterate the high consideration and proud satisfaction which the people of Maryland now and have ever felt for the gallant services and meritorious conduct displayed by the deceased in the actions aforesaid, and for the many distinguished services which he has rendered his country through a life devoted to her honor.

And be it further resolved, That the Governor be and he is hereby requested to present the sword which has thus been returned to the State, to Algernon Sydney Smoot, son of the late Captain Smoot, with a charge that he shall cherish it as a testimonial of the high appreciation of the State of Maryland for the distinguished services of his deceased father, and that it shall never be drawn from its scabbard for use, except in defence of his country, her rights or her sacred honor.

Endorsed, "passed by yeas and nays;"

Which were read the first time.

The bill entitled, an act to pay John D. Toy and Schley & Haller, for printing the reports of the commissioners to